State Government. The proposal envisages, in addition, strengthening of the existing educational institutions in the country enabling them to function as regional centres for catering to the training needs of official statisticians in each 'group of States/UTs'.

10. *Special Data Dissemination Standards*

(i) The International Monetary Fund (IMF) have established the Special Data Dissemination Standards (SDDS) and subscription to the SDDS was opened to member countries in April 96. India, is one of the selected countries, which has subscribed to the SDDS on 1.1.97 The SDDS prescribes time schedules, coverage and periodicity for various national statistics. The Department of Statistics (DOS) is the coordinating authority for the date categories of national accounts, production index, labour market and prices. The most important additional work arising out of SDDS relates to preparation of quarterly estimates of GDP. In order to meet the SDDS requirements on quarterly estimates of GDP, the DOS has initiated trial exercises to assess the problem areas in methodology and data availability.

(ii) Since the statistical system in India is broadly a decentralised one, preparation of quarterly GDP estimates requires strengthening the statistical system in the DOS as well as in various Departments for the purpose of generating the additional data required for compilation of quarterly GDP's.

11. *Release of Unpublished Data*

Traditionally, the outputs of statistical activities and programmes undertaken by various Government Departments have been made available to the users in the form of published reports. Generally speaking, these reports were based on analysis of only a partial data out of a rather large set of information collected, particularly through various large-scale sample surveys. While, on the one hand, the demand for unpublished data from researchers, private organisations and even Government Departments have been steadily growing, there has been no official policy for permitting easy access to unpublished data by the users. In fact, there has been a distinct tendency of various Government Departments to exhibit serious inhibition in parting with unpublished data in spite of the knowledge that the reports produced by them generally use a small part of the large data generated by the system.

With a view to promoting easy access to unpublished data by all types of users within the country and abroad, the Department reviewed the total system of dissemination of data in all its entirety and prepared a policy paper for release of these data to the users on convenient terms. The Government has cleared the policy for implementation. This policy envisages making available both published and unpublished data, within a specified time frame, on the media chosen by the user, e.g. CD-ROMs, floppies, magnetic tapes, etc. for a price. The Department has been asked to evolve a pricing policy giving preferential treatment to key Central Government Departments, students, and University research workers within the country.

12. *New Coverage of Statistics*

With the changing socio-economic scenario and cultural ethos of the country, new areas of concern have emerged necessitating generation of newer data sets. The Department has taken steps to develop (a) Environment Statistics, (b) Informal Sector Statistics, (c) Gender Statistics, and (d) a new series on Consumer Price Index Numbers separately for rural and urban areas.

मध्य प्रदेश में जनजातीय महिलाओं के लिए विशेष शिक्षा कार्यक्रम

*519. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव:** क्या कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार मध्य प्रदेश के जनजातीय क्षेत्रों में रहने वाली महिलाओं के लिए कोई विशेष शिक्षा कार्यक्रम शुरू करने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में कार्यक्रम-वार और जिला-वार और जिला-वार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या शिक्षा के अभाव के कारण इन जनजातीय महिलाओं की दशा बहुत ही शोचनीय है;

(घ) क्या राज्य सरकार ने भी ऐसा कोई कार्यक्रम चलाने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार से सहायता मांगी है, और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो इस कार्यक्रम को कब से शुरू किए जाने की सम्भावना है?

कल्याण मंत्री (श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) आदिवासी महिलाओं की साक्षरता दर समाज के अन्य वर्गों से कम है जिसके कारण वे प्रतिकूल परिस्थिति में हैं।

(घ) जी, नहीं। ऐसा कोई भी विशेष प्रस्ताव कल्याण मंत्रालय को प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

State-wise Census of Orthopaedically Handicapped People

*520. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State-wise Census of orthopaedically handicapped people has been conducted;

(b) if so, the figures for Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the steps proposed to increase rehabilitation centres for orthopaedically handicapped people in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) and (b) No census of the disabled population State-wise/Union Terriotry-wise was undertaken as part of the decadal General Census. However, the sample survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation in 1991 estimated that about 16.15 million people in the country as a whole were physically handicapped (orthopaedic, speech & hearing and visual).

(c) Schemes and programmes aimed at rehabilitation of the disabled population throughout the country in general, including Andhra Pradesh, are given in the Statement.

Statement

Schemes and Programmes for the rehabilitation of the disabled persons in the Country

(1) *Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the Disabled*

Under this scheme, assistance is provided to voluntary organisations to run rehabilitation programmes for the disabled. Financial support is given upto 90% of the total project cost for recurring items like staff salary, maintenance charges, contingencies and non-recurring items like construction of building, equipment, furniture. Financial assitance is given for projects like vocational training centres, special schools, counselling centres, hostels, training centres for personnels, placement services etc.

(2) *Establishment & Development of Special Schools*

The scheme envisages assistance to the NGOs upto 90% for establishment and upgradation of Special Schools in four major disabilities — orthopaedic, hearing and speech, visual and mentally retarded. Priority under the scheme is given to setting up of schools in districts where there are no special schools at present. Both recurring and non-recurring expenditure is supported by the Ministry.

(3) *Assistance to Organisations for persons with Cerebral Palsy & Mental Retardation for Manpower Development*

under the scheme, assistance is given to NGOs upto the extent of 100% for running training courses for researchers in the area of Cerebral Palsy & Mental Retardation.

(4) *Assitance to Organisations for Rehabilitation of Leprosy Cured Persons*

Under this scheme, assistance is given upto 90% to voluntary organisations in developing programmes for rehabilitation of leprosy cured persons.

(5) *National Institutes*

In order to effectively deal with the multidimensional problems of the handicapped population, the following four National Institutes have been set up. These Institutes are apex level organisations in the field of training, vocational guidance, counselling, research, rehabilitation, development of suitable service modules. These Institutes also serve as premier documentation, and information centres in their area of disability:—